(c) No, Sir.

Export of Cotton

*340. SHRI M. S. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of cotton exported during the last two financial years;

(b) what was the average price realised in each year; and

(c) what was the average price obtained in the internal market during the last two financial years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) The total quantity of cotton exported and the price realisation during the last two cotton years is given below:—

Rs. in Crores

Year	Qty. in lakh bales	Amount
1983-84	3·54	98·36
1984-85	1·79	63 84

(c) The average price which prevailed in the local market during the last two cotton years is given below:

(Price in Rs. per quintal)

Year	Short Staple	Medium staple	Long staple
1983-84		1824	1871
1984-85		1997	1743

Airports receiving Chartered Tourist Flights

†2193. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the airports which are permitted to receive chartered tourist flights from abroad in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to permit Shillong airport also for chartered flights; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) The guidelines for operation of charters to the country permit the airports at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Trivandrum and Dabolim (Goa) to receive charter flights from abroad.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The selection of airports for receiving charters has to meet many specified factors like ability of the airport to receive wide-bodied jets, development of other aspects of infrastructure and demand from charter originating country etc. At present all these requirements are not satisfied in respect of Shillong Airport.

Discussions by the Minister of External Affairs with US Authorities on International Development Agency

‡2194. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the outcome of discussion of the Minister of External Affairs with the US authorities for

†Previously Unstarred Question 1668, transferred from the 12th March, 1986.

‡Previously Unstarred Question 1771, transferred from the 13th March, 1986.

continued International Development Agency assistance to India during his recent visit to that country;

(b) whether it is a fact that India's share of International Development Agency has shrunk from 40 per cent to 22 per cent; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to ensure that India's share of International Development Agency does not go below 22 per cent in view of the absolute poverty conditions prevailing in large parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) In his discussions with US authorities, the Minister of External Affairs has stressed India's continued need for concessional assistance from IDA.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) India is engaged in a dialogue with the USA and other donor countries who are at present negotiating the size and criteria for allocation of IDA-8, which will be effective from 1st July, 1987.

Implementation of 20-Point Programme

†2195. SHRI S. W. DHABE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in the implementation of minimum wages for rural labourers under the 20-Point Programme during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85 in various States;

(b) whether any study has been made regarding the implementation of minimum wages; and

(c) what are the main reasons for its tardy implementation?

†Previously Unstarred Question 1860, transferred from the 13th March, 1986.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) According to available information all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations which have fixed minimum wages in respect of agricultural labourers under the Act have revised the minimum wages in respect of agricultural workers at least once since 1980. In some States/Union Territories, minimum wages have been revised more then once during this period. The Central Government has revised the minimum wages in respect of agricultural labourers on 5 occasions since 1980. The last revision was made on the 12th February, 1985.

(b) The Labour Bureau has made evaluation studies on minimum wages in respect of Bihar, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Karnataka.

(c) The Studies reveal that ignorance of employers and labourers about the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, lack of security and facilities to the enforcement machinery, shortage of inspecting staff and lack of co-operation both from the employers as well as labourers to the inspecting staff in rural areas are some of the causes which hamper the progress of implementation.

2196. [*Transferred to the 19th March, 1986*].

Nationalisation of Sree Durga Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills, Konnagar West Bengal

2197. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for nationalising the Sree Durga Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills, Konnagar, West Bengal; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?